From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: bcutter@teal.csn.net (Bob Cutter)
Subject: [1243] "Joy ***" traded
Message-ID: <199610070024.SAA14783@lynx.csn.net>

I have traded my copy of "Joy of QRP". Thank you all for responding.

72, Bob KI0G

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [1242] Copper Top Tester Wattmeter?
Message-ID: <961006202147_326956308@emout03.mail.aol.com>

I was about to throw out a 9 volt battery
package (Duracell) with the battery tester
on it and decided to cut it out to have handy
for testing the errant 9v battery or two ...
I've been going through a few lately operating
the 40-9er I just built. What a great "novelty"
radio!!!

Anyway, call me curious, I couldn't help noticing
the resistive loads that heat up to affect the
liquid crystal indicators. It measures 62 ohms !!!
It takes a few seconds of RF from the 40-9er at
400mw to make the bottom segement "light up"
but it does!!!

I think I have a winner for the ARCI building contest!!!
Seriously, has anyone else looked at these testers
for possible power meters? (spelled CHEAP)

OK, I know, I have too much time on my hands!!
73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: herr@ridgecrest.ca.us (Michael Herr)
Subject: [1249] Don't forget the antenna
Message-ID: <v01530505ae7f0ef69f4b@[199.120.150.151]>

I blew it! This weekend I went with my son's Boy Scout troop up to our
rustic cabin (ie tar paper shack, dry and warm). I always take along the

Norcal 40 and did so again. This time I also added the Cascade (40m) expecting to show the scouts a little ssb operation. Spent late Friday night building up a better better system for it, making sure I had the mic, key, etc. Kept moving the rolled up dipole around, saying I gotta put that into the pack. Even pulled out the ultra light dipole in favor of the heavier, beefer dipole. Got up there, pulled out the rigs, set them up and went to set up the dipole. You guessed it, I forgot the dipole! Now that I am home, there it is sitting there under the work bench.
72
Mike WA6ARA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Greg Newberry <newberry@cyberhighway.net>
Subject: [1231] DSP for $27 at RS
Message-ID: <325826E2.6FF5@cyberhighway.net>

Hi All,

I know Radio Shack isn't the _Best_ place for ham gear, but I went in today and they have their DSP-40 audio prosessor for $27. It was normally $79 and was marked to 34.95, but he brought it up on the computer and it was down to $27. If you have no filtering this does a good job for CW. And the price is right. Has a built in 5w amp and speaker. Comes with mounting brackets for the car and the power and audio cords.

Have fun!
--
  Greg Newberry
  WB7DUO   QRP-L #760
  http:/www.cyberhighway.net/~newberry

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "Dean Marzocca" <n2tnn@ifu.net>
Subject: [1200] EMPS
Message-ID: <199610060413.AAA14295@mail.ifu.net>

     Wow, got off to a good start tonight. The band was dead here in central NJ but came alive about 9:00pm. Just about fell out of my chair (was reading a Farnell Components catalog). Got Ken NE0C in OHIO and the a few minutes later picked up Ken VA3KEW in Ontario. Looks like 1 state and 1 DX.
     Well that makes up for those sneaky fox ops. Didn't even think of sending

that signal out to the east coast. Just wait, mine will be going out and I hope it goes your way. Might even crank it up to the limit, 5watts. Hope to get a bit closer next week so I'll be looking.
     Chuck, get on that color burst frequency some night I heard an AR station tonight and don't think that is too far from you... lets get going now

C U all later, Dean

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Bob Edwards <rbe@atlanta.com>
Subject: [1241] EMPS
Message-ID: <325873E9.3A55@atlanta.com>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

--------------1B7E1BA52068
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Chuck, summary of my 9 EMPS, so far.

Low to very low RST from my 5 watts in a 80 meter loop, nr Atlanta.

Out of 9; two were 339, four were 449, with a high of 579 into AR.

Other station RSTs were close to these and we did complete all QSOs.

Operated at 3560 Khz +/- 2 Khz.

Thanks for the FB QSOs;
   W0CH,WB5UMT,KR4ZD,KI4JA,NF0R,KC5E,AA8JZ,AA9KH and KE4KDT

--------------1B7E1BA52068
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="FOOTER.TXT"

|---------------------------------|
| Bob, AE4CA, WAS-5W, nr Atlanta | ......"QRP", more from less....
|---------------------------------|
ARCI, MIQRP, COQRP, QRPL, ARS, NorCAL
EMPS QSOs=9 STATES(9/0) DX=0, MO,MS,GA,AR,MI,IL,KY

--------------1B7E1BA52068--

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: bhopkins@polarnet.com (Bruce Hopkins - KL7JAF)
Subject: [1250] EMPS - Challenge !!!
Message-ID: <v01540b00ae7e1ca1f9d2@[204.119.24.102]>

Hi Gang...

     Ok, for all you night owls with good ears and a good antenna, here is your chance to get a leg up on the 80m propogation study... The Alaska QRP Club's 80m Roundtable meets this Sunday evening at 2120 ADT or at 0520Z (Monday UTC) for those of you of that persuasion... We meet on 3.725 kHz... We also meet same time same freq. on Wednesdays (Thurs. UTC)... This is our second meeting and expect the turn out to increase as the word gets out... We had four checkins last Wednesday...

     We'll leave the light on for you so don't be bashful about breaking in... Take care and have fun... Hope to be able to hear some of you before winter is over... We already have 4 inches of snow on the ground here in Fairbanks, and won't see bare earth again until next spring... F.Y.B.O. - No Problem !!!

72/73/oo's - Bruce * KL7JAF

EMPS QSOs=4 STATES(w/c)=1/0 DX=0
AK

Web Page: http://www2.polarnet.com/~bhopkins
Alaska QRP Club Web Page: http://www2.polarnet.com/~bhopkins/akqrp.html

"Every Man should learn to play the Flute,
     but not well..."

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)
Subject: [1219] EMPS and 3710 KHz
Message-ID: <19961006.122723.4719.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

I hung around 3710 KHz last nite, looking for Novice/Tech+ stations, but all I heard were VE2's in profusion, on SSB. Maybe this is a problem only in the NE USA, but I DID find Novice/Tech+ activity down the band at 3686 KHz. In fact, both stations I worked were running with surplus time-base Xtals, nominally 3.6864 MHz.

Possibly the 3686 KHz spot should be considered as an alternative to the 3710 KHz spot.

Still looking around on Eighty

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L # 582
EMPS Q=6 S=2   DX=0
"In the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp...FN13ac"

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "Bob Tellefsen-CNSE97" <Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com>
Subject: [1207] EXTRA!
Message-ID: <M1087414.001.uaky0.1.961006054345Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBE/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Congratulations, Bob. It's been almost 30 years since I got mine, but I still remember the studying and practice it took. And then PASSIGN THE EXAM!
Anyway, well done.
We all hope to hear you with your new call.
72, Bob N6WG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [1239] FS: MFJ-9020, Outbacker SPLIT antenna
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9610061856.C28992-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

For sale:

MFJ-9020 20m QRP xcvr - basic radio, with box & manual, $169 new, asking $120/offer. Also have CW filter and built-in keyer, can add both for $160.

Outbacker Split OB-8S antenna, very good-excellent shape. Covers
10-75 meters, will actually time on 6m. Unscrews at midpoint to break
into two, 3' segments, which fit into a heavy, vinyl pouch. $289 new,
asking $195.

Trades considered.

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: vodall@juno.com
Subject: [1201] Gel-Cel's and grounding antenna switches
Message-ID: <19961005.221732.7959.1.vodall@juno.com>

Howdy,

It's good to be back on the QRP list. The high traffic volume and
corresponding phone toll charges forced me to take a break for a while.
Fortunately, JUNO
came along to cover the slack until the local phone co-op get's their act
together and we finally get an ISP with a local phone call.

It's nice to see that this is still one of the 'funnest' lists around.
It's hard to follow all the traffic very long and not start thinking
about which box the QRP rigs are stored in and just where they should go
on the operating desk..

A couple issues have come up and I'd like to throw them out here to see
what folks think and how others deal with it.

1. Gel Cells. Over the years I've collected a half dozen Gel-Cells of various
capacity ratings. They get used from time to time but mostly sit on the shelf.
Discharging.

A Gel Cell lasts the longest if it's kept fully charged. Not overcharged
and not completely discharged.

I am contemplating hooking all the Gel Cells to the Astron power supply.
An ARRL QRP magazine has an example of emergency backup using a regulated
12V supply and a 12v batter both feeding a rig through blocking diodes.

A high wattage, 1 ohm
resistor, is used in parallel with the diode coming from the battery to provide a current limited charge path. I am considering something along this line for the Gel Cell batteries. That would provide both backup power for some equipment in the shack as well as keeping the batteries charged.

The magazine article recommends setting the power supply voltage so that 13.8 volts is seen AFTER the blocking diode. I'm considering not doing this... I probably
should to keep the batteries fully charged - but then the other (evil) QRO rig, not going through the diode, would be subject to a higher then recommended voltage.

Any thoughts, comments, suggestions? How do you store Gel Cells when they're not being used?

Also, I have 20 watts of solar panels I'd like to add to the system at the same time. Not a big deal - just something else I'm thinking of.

2. Over the years, I've collect several QRP rigs. They far outnumber the local antennas. I have a good quality, B&W (?) 5 position grounding antenna switch. I'm considering running the rig-side output from the tuner to the input of the 1-to-5 switch and using it to connect to the QRO rig as well as my QRP rigs. I'm a bit hesitant to do this as the thought of that 100 watts so close to the input of the QRP rigs is scary.
It's probably not a problem but I'd rather spend my free time using the QRP rigs than tracking down and replacing burnt out components.

Thoughts? Suggestions? How do other folks with multiple QRP rigs set up the shack?

73,
Bill - WA7NWP
vodall@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: n4so@juno.com (CHARLES K BROWN)
Subject: [1206] GEL-CELL CHARGING
Message-ID: <19961005.233818.10071.4.n4so@juno.com>

The project called "A Gelled-Electrolyte Battery Charger" is found in the

ARRL Handbook, chapter 27 in Power Supply Projects. (edition 1994)

It details the facts of lead-acid batteries and the circuit design by

Warren Dion,
N1BBH, and shows how to build a battery pack and charger.

General information on batteries is found in the chapter on Power Supplies on
page 6-37. It explains gel-cell batteries and battery theory.

Ken Brown
QTH Near Mobile, AL
QRP-L #622
n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: WD6BOR@aol.com
Subject: [1237] Handbook Power Transformer Leads ID
Message-ID: <961006190718_537883948@emout10.mail.aol.com>

In response to a request for more information on identifying surplus transformers, here are the page numbers from the 1996 ARRL Handbook with more information of transformers as well as tubes.

Page 11.3 "How to evaluate unmarked transformers."

Page 24.7, Table 24.12 Power transformer lead color codes

Page 24.28-29 Transmitting tube specifications.

Page 24.30 EIA standard tube pin-outs.

The handbook has good basic information on everything from basic tube and transistor receivers and transmitters to information on basic circuit operation and design. This book is still my first recommendation for any new ham asking about a good book to buy to learn more about this hobby. I recently bought a 200 page 6" x 8" industry reference for nearly twice the $38 the '96 Handbook costs, and consider it a bargain compared to some of the standard references I have to update every one to three years. Either support your local amateur radio retail outlet and buy it there or order one from the ARRL. It will be the best $38 you'll spend.

Darrel, WD6BOR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [1221] Jolt Cola Giveaway
Message-ID: <199610061718.KAA12069@primenet.com>

John (N9UKX) wrote:

> OK,QRP... I STILL have that 6pack of Jolt up for grabs!
> Boy,when will I get that first contact on the 49er???

ME! ME! MEEEEE! Gimme gimme gimme! When are you going
to be on?

> I might have to check the expiration date on the Jolt!!!

It's not an expiration date - it's the half-life. :-)

Cheers de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions, About to start yet
another hellishly impossible project delivery cycle....

PS- As of last night I think I finally have enough $$$
for a Sierra - wahoo! But then there's the OHR sale.
SCAF, new wattmeter, other goodies. But I've been saving
for a Sierra for a year. Argh!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [1203] JOTA and an Apology
Message-ID: <19961005.215828.7375.7.kb0rol@juno.com>

Dave (G0DJA) sent me (and the group) a *** Tongue firmly in cheek***
message about the origin of scouts - I know he wasn't looking for an
Apology but I feel he and others out there deserve one.

I know the, what are now called, Boy Scouts started in Great Britain, the
story is told at almost every major Scouting meeting I've ever attended.
And if I could, I would like to shake the hands of those who gave it the
start.

I have a friend that gets to travel the world and at our last scout meeting wore a Polish Scout Uniform, looked real sharp. So, yes I do know its world wide - I just didn't know JOTA was.

So to Dave and any other International scouters I apologize for being an Ugly American - and to make it up to you if I even think I hear you calling me when I'm the FOX I'll put you to the top of my pile up list (I am going to need one of those, right Chuck?)

BTW now I expect Dave to be on the air for JOTA to prove to me, an UGLY AMERICAN, that JOTA is INTERNATIONAL!!!

Thanks

de

Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "John Seney, WD1V" <john@wd1v.mv.com>
Subject: [1208] Macintosh Ham Radio Software List
Message-ID: <l03010500ae7d4e1b9283@[199.125.92.113]>

> I have a friend who wants to learn the Morse code using his
> computer. However, I have been unable to locate any software
> that will run on a Macintosh computer. Does anyone know where
> I can obtain software he can use? Thanks in advance for your help.

A trip to my home page reveals there are many good files and programs for amateur radio operators that want to use Mac computers.

<http://www.mv.com/ipusers/wd1v/>

* Ham Radio Test Simulators - where you can go from Novice to Extra Class practicing the actual tests right on your Mac! Check out the info on the new NO CODE license or scramble your neurons and learn Morse on the Mac too!

* Macnet Roster - a virtual "Who's Who" HyperCard stack with more than 750 entries giving the names, addresses, phone numbers, of radio operators all over the world that are using Macs. Check out their projects and their passions and put a design on your Mac Radio future when you see

what neat things are being done!

* Mac Ham Radio Software Listing - as the name implies, its "The List" of the latest - much of it with FTP links so what you see is what you can get with just a click.

* Ham Radio.FAQ - compiled on a Mac with a lot of links to great Mac FTP sites for radio, electronic engineering, and similar data.

73,

John D. Seney |_|_|_|_| john@wd1v.mv.com
144 Pepperidge Dr |_| |_| page 5956779@skymail.com
Manchester, NH 03103-6150 |_|_ _|_| wd1v@wb1dsw.nh.usa.noam
voice mail 603.533.3472 | | | | | fax 603.627.1623

Check out LeCroy's Newest COLOR Power PC Digital Scopes
with ANALOG Persistence!

http://www.lecroy.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [1252] More Two-fer history
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.961006225305.22869E-100000@u1.abs.net>

Actually, the Two-fer appeared twice in the mainstream ham press, once by WB8VGE in 73 and the other in CQ magazine. The original was in the QRP Quarterly, where it was a club project, and it was designed by John Collins, KN1H. VGE and the other author simply passed it on. Unfortunately, both of those circuits in the mainstream press had a potentially troublesome design change; instead of using a ferrite toroid in the transformer between stages, they substituted a powdered iron core. While this worked well in some cases, it caused problems in others, being dependent, I believe, on construction techniques, parasitic capacitances and couplings, etc. I know for a fact that it caused problems in some kits put out by Small Parts Center (which ceased operation years ago) in certain instances. I got a first hand look at it when K3TKS built one, and it was plagued by oscillation of some of the stages that were supposed

to be amplifiers only. The problem was cured by replacing the powdered iron with the ferrite that should have been there (and was there in the original design.)

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: ukii@megsinet.net (ukii)
Subject: [1210] Mounting Tower ???
Message-ID: <01BBB360.96F9B480@dial123.megsinet.net>

Hello All.
     Well,back to the resource pool for more answers...
I am getting a Rohn top section for free and need some ideas
on mouting it. I never had a tower,so I am lost. The top section is
9 feet,and has a rotor plate in it. My problem is,,,
I have a "A" frame style house with an enclosed back porch.
The back porch roof is horizontal,but pitch's away from the house
about 2" per foot. This tower section has round legs. Any idea
on how to make brackets to bolt it to the flat roof?
Also,since the tower has 3 legs,do I put the one leg up top,and
the other 2 down lower,or visa versa??? or doesnt it make a difference..?
     I hope you can understand what I am talking about...

OK,QRP... I STILL have that 6pack of Jolt up for grabs!
Boy,when will I get that first contact on the 49er???
I might have to check the expiration date on the Jolt!!!

Thanks for your help (past and present).
              Best 73 de john
              N9UKX

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "Bob Tellefsen-CNSE97" <Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com>
Subject: [1204] Noise Problems
Message-ID: <M1087405.003.u86r2.1.961006045203Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBE/
PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Jim:
Your problem is a fairly common one. Unfortunately, there is no one solution that fits all.

I have struggled through noise reduction efforts, and am glad to share what I have done so far.

First off, don't try to receive on a vertical antenna if you are in a noisy location. This leads to permanent frustration.
For low noise (relatively speaking) reception, you can do one or more of several things.

1. Check your rig for the right way to use the noise blanker if it has one.
2. Run with minimum rf gain and maximum audio gain. In high noise, the noise gets amplified to the point where it drives later stages in your receiver into nonlinear regions and increases noise and distrotion within the receiver.
3. Use the narrowest IF filters you have. This reduces the amount of noise energy getting into the receiver, but lets the signal pass through to be amplified.

So far, we have discussed the receiver. Now for the antenna.

The ideal situation is to prevent the noise from getting into the receiver. In the real world we can't do that, but we can tilt the balance so there is relatively more desired signal and relatively less noise (This is improving the signal-to-noise ratio).

4. Try to reorient your antenna so it is end-on to the power lines for minimum coupling if it is horizontal.
5. Use a horizontally polarized loop antenna, as far from the power lines as is practical. This can be used on both transmit and receive. See the many antenna books around for details.
6. For a single band, make up a resonant dipole and mount it very low. Mine is about eye height and nailed on a wood fence. Again, get it as far from the noise source as possible, and bring the received signal in with coax.
7. Experiment with a rotatable loop, like the old broadcast receiver antennas. For 40m maybe three feet on a side or less. Use coax to incorporate a Faraday shield which reduces noise pickup from nearby wiring. In the antenna books, look for articles on 160m and 80m dxing. These folks face this problem in spades, and these loops help them.
8. Check September 1995 QST for the article on a low-noise receiving antenna. Intended for 80m and 160m, but I built it for 40m and it works there too.
9. Look into products like the JPS ANC-4 Antenna Noise Cancelling unit. I have one, and it works on some noises. Rather fussy about optimum location and length of the noise sampling antenna.
10. Try to contact the power sompany who owns the lines to see if they have an rf noise abatement person or department. Sopme are good, some seem nonexistent.

The bad news is there are no magic bullets. Each solution only works on some kinds of noise, and then only sometimes.

The good news is there are things you can do to make your situation somewhat better.

Hope this helps.

72, and good luck.

Bob N6WG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [1202] novice questions
Message-ID: <19961005.215825.7375.1.kb0rol@juno.com>

My son sent this in and a copy to me. He isn't on the QRP-L list of subscribers so I am forwarding this for him.

Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

--------- Begin forwarded message ----------
From: kb0sjy@juno.com (DEREK L MUGLESTON)
Subject: novice questions
From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: n4so@juno.com
Subject: [1218] QRP CALLSIGN/ADDRESS
Message-ID: <19961006.112709.5207.0.N4SO@juno.com>

This is related to obtaining an address from a QRP station from specifically
the QRZ! ham radio CDROM Callsign Database.

I have an FTP address -- ftp.qrz.com
and I am using Telnet to link the QRZ computer. What "login" and "password"
allows me access to the Callsign Database?

On the other hand, I have the Web address of http://www.cdrom.com/'QRZ! and also
a Web server address at http://www.qrz.com/;

Can you call the computer and find out how to access ftp.qrz.com, or call

the Web site and find out how to gain access?

One more thing-- QRZ! has an E-mail address for obtaining a
callsign/address
but I lost the datafiles.

And thanks!.

KEN BROWN
QTH: MOBILE, AL
QRP-L #622
n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: n4so@juno.com
Subject: [1248] QRZ! CALLSIGN DATABASE
Message-ID: <19961006.205831.5207.4.N4SO@juno.com>

This is related to obtaining an address from a QRP station from
specifically
the QRZ! ham radio CDROM Callsign Database.

I have an FTP address --   ftp.qrz.com
and I am using Telnet to link the QRZ computer. What "login" and
"password"
allows me access to the Callsign Database? Yes, I have tried "anonymous"
and tried a blank in the password and also my internet address, neither
worked.

On the other hand, I have the Web address of http://www.cdrom.com/'QRZ!
and also
a Web server address at   http://www.qrz.com/;

Can you call the computer and find out how to access ftp.qrz.com, or
call
the Web site and find out how to gain access?

QRZ! has an E-mail address (lookup@qrz.com) for obtaining a
callsign/address
which has been used successfully.
The command is:

lookup (callsign)

lower case is mandatory

And thanks!.

KEN BROWN
QTH: MOBILE, AL
QRP-L #622
n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "Denton Bramwell" <denton@cyber-west.com>
Subject: [1232] REL tantalums/'lytics
Message-ID: <01BBB39B.4E3C5460@async16_routerb_layton.cyber-west.com>

Tantalums are often quite compact, which makes them nice for small stuff.... on the other hand, electrically mistreating them can actually ignite them, and boy, do they burn bright and hot for a while.

Denton
K7OWJ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover Cleveland WT6P)
Subject: [1247] Resonance on the St. Louis Vertical
Message-ID: <v02130500ae7e0ad83d71@[205.139.74.209]>

I spent the afternoon assembling the St. Louis vertical. I discovered what others had reported - the antenna is resonant at about 5.6 MHz. So I started pruning to achieve resonance at 7.040 (or thereabouts) using a loosely coupled GDO. The antenna had four radials as specified in the instructions

The final results of all this were that I threw away 26.8 feet of the original 50 feet specified for the loading coil. The final coil wind goes like this: nothing for the first 1.5 inches above the end cap, 13 inches of tightly wound twin lead, the remainder of the twin lead spread evenly up to the top of the first section. The upper wire is a single strand of 18 ga. about 17 feet long spiralling gently down from a solder lug at the top. It is resonant at 7.040 MHz.

Your mileage may vary but I can assure you that fifty feet of twin lead is far too much to begin with. Start with no more than 35 feet or so and begin pruning. Use an analyzer or a GDO.

This is a great antenna! It is going to be heading up to the Sierras next weekend for a "field" test. I am very pleased with the design. Thanks are due to the St. Louis QRP Club for the original work and to Norcal for the current marketing effort. You will love this antenna.

73 and cheers,

Grover
WT6P

- - -
P. Grover Cleveland WT6P / QRPARCI 3795 / ARS 101 / Norcal 216 / QRP-L #669
Archaeominiferroequinologist
Fairmont Speeder Pilot
Certified Steam Locomotive Driver
Certifiably Loony

Can also be found at: cleveland@usa.net
71213.2741@compuserve.com
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/gcleveland/me.htm

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [1215] Roller Inductors
Message-ID: <961006110055_119759507@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

In my previous post, I had offered some EF Johnson rotary inductors fs. The response was so overwhelming that I made a special effort to locate more during a recent hamfest. The three listed below are all in excellent condition, but are getting more and more difficult to find.

EF Johnson 229-202, approximately 18uh, $25.

EF Johnson 229-202 removed from new equipment, in a partial enclosure and includes extension shaft, coupler, knob, and four Arco compression variables. $35.

EF Johnson 229-203 a one inch longer version of the above, approx 22uH. Perfect for tuning physically short antennas on the lower frequency bands, especially 160M, this is the only one of this model I have ever seen. $30

Thanks for the bandwidth. I will continue to look for these for the community as long as there is an interest and demand. I'll also include my paper on designing and building antenna tuners.

72, Paul KB8N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: d.nordquest@juno.com
Subject: [1220] Small-Value Coils
Message-ID: <19961006.130820.4783.5.d.nordquest@juno.com>

Excuse my inadvertent postings of server commands! Perhaps the following from an old QST will be of interest to those who missed it. It should be useful especially at VHF and up.

MACHINE-SCREW-WOUND COILS

Screw Size	Inductance in uH for n Turns					
	n = 1	2	3	4	5	6
6-32	.016	.024	.032	.044	.058	.062
10-24	.017	.028	.043	.057	.072	.088
1/4-20	.021	.035	.055	.077	.095	.121
5/16-18	.022	.044	.067	.096	.121	.158
3/8-16	.026	.052	.083	.118	.152	.201
7/16-14	.03	.061	.098	.143	.199	.24

(Measured by W7PDM using #20 bell wire for all but the 6-32's, for which #26 wire-wrap was used. Source: QST - 11/93/p.83.)
[Note that tinned wire, such as wire-wrap, lowers the coil Q.]

It might, for example, be of use in building phasing networks for the R2/T2 at VHF and up.

Dave KE9ED

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Richard Fisher <ki6sn@pe.net>
Subject: [1212] Spartan Sprint Reminder
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95.961006071821.20178A-100000@magnolia>

The October Spartan Sprint will be held on October 7 (which is our standard date--the first monday of the month).

The Spartan Sprint is based on a simple but stimulating concept. We are encouraging all of you to cobble together the kind of station you'd use in a portable environment--lightweight transceiver, keyer, key, antenna tuner and battery. Then put that turkey on the air, and participate in a two hour sprint.

All operators are invited to play, whether or not they are members of Adventure Radio Society. Even if you don't have lightweight equipment, your participation will be rewarding, both for you and the other participants. We'll report the score in two different formats--absolute scores, and QS0s per pound of station weight. So you can get your kicks from running up a magnificent score, or achieving an remarkable ratio of Qs per pound.

ARS provides handsome certificates to the operators who achieve the top four scores in the Qs per pound category.

During October, I'll be on a hiking trip on Bhutan, so the Sprint will be administered by Richard Fisher, KI6SN. Here is the procedure for October 7:

1. Start at 9:00 PM EDT, 8:00 CDT, 7:00 MDT and 6:00 PDT.
Finish at 11:00 PM EDT, 10:00 CDT, 9:00 MDT and 8:00 PDT.

2. Use 7040 +- Khz and 14,060 +- Khz (You may operate one or two bands--your choice).

3. Exchange RST, SPC (state, province or country) and power output.

4. If you choose to call CQ, use the format "CQ SP".

5. If you are operating under the portable QRP rules, add "/PQ" to your call. (You can find those rules at our web site,

http://members.aol.com/adradio/index.html)

6. You can take credit for working the same station on a second band.

After the contest, send Richard Fisher e-mail with your total QSOs and the total weight of your station (i.e., the combined weight of the transmitter, receiver, antenna tuner, key, keyer and battery). You may also include your comments from the soapbox. If you get that information to Richard by Tuesday night, he'll include your data in the contest results, which he'll publish on Thursday, October 10 on QRP-L. Richard's e-mail address is KI6SN@aol.com.

If you're thinking about becoming a member of Adventure Radio Society, just send Richard an e-mail expressing your interest. Membership is free, and the organization has a great group of men and women who combine their love of ham radio with their affection for the outdoors. You don't need to be a macho person; ARS welcomes people of all ages and levels of ability.

72, Russ Carpenter, AA7QU
ARS#1

(Announcement posted on Russ' behalf by Richard Fisher, KI6SN)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: KB0PJE /5 Jack Dougherty <jdougher@wt.net>
Subject: [1224] SST Board Size
Message-ID: <32581087.1285@wt.net>

I'm putting in just 1 vote for making the board size LARGE for the SST (and other designs meant to spur experimentation). Like maybe 3x 4, or 4 x 4, etc....

I love playing with my 49-er, but have trouble using the magnifier, tweezers, etc. to try to fit modification parts into/over/under the board. Request opening up them boards to allow room for the inevitable mods for power increase, audio increase, bandspread increase, keyer additions, etc. that get "glued" on to initial designs......
73
KB0PJE   /5
Jack   /Houston

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Ron Giuntini <rong@slip.net>
Subject: [1216] SST?
Message-ID: <E0v9vZA-0000bb-00@ferret.slip.net>

I must have missed the posting...What is an SST? If it is another kit I can use, I want one....

Ron KB6GK
NorCal #1718
San Francisco

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
Subject: [1213] Tantalum vs. Electrolytics
Message-ID: <3257b230.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

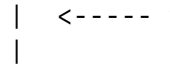
Hi Gang,

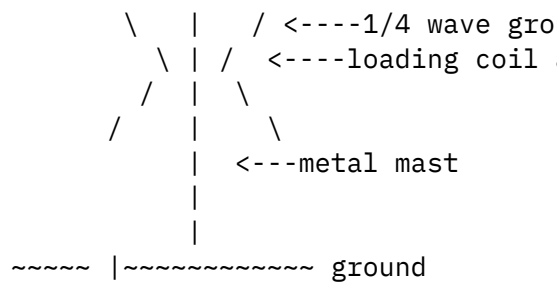
I don't know if my observation is correct but it seems to me that tantalums are very likely to fail with age. Can anyone educate me as to why this happens? What is the real advantage of using a tantalum vs. an electrolytic, for example? Thanks.

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel
--
*------------+-------------------------------------+
Daniel Wee	daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV	danwee@singnet.com.sg
QRP-L #667	daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org
+------------+-------------------------------------+

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "duane" <duane@flinet.com>
Subject: [1217] the antenna suggestions
Message-ID: <199610061602.MAA01330@shell.flinet.com>

thanks for the replies from everyone. I think I'll try it....I'll mount the ant. on a mast 25 feet above ground with 3 or 4 metal radials extending from the bottom of the antenna out in a horz. plane. I'll use a loading coil at the base too. thanks so much for the replies from everyone.





Duane AB4BE
http://www.flinet.com/~duane
duane@flinet.com
ab4be@amsat.org

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: ji3m@scubed.com (James R. Duffey)
Subject: [1222] Use Headphones
Message-ID: <v02130500ae7d9bb47565@[192.31.66.229]>

On Fri, 4 Oct 1996 23:20:28 -0700 (MST) Joe wrote :

>My ears were still ringing the following morning.
>I had the volume on my QRP+ maxed out, the filter
>cranked down to 100Hz, and my ear was literally
>pressed against the speaker.

Use headphones, preferrably the type that completely cover your ear. I think a good set of comfortable headphones will improve the signal to noise ratio to our ear by 3 to 6 db. No kidding.

and
   > an occasional station
>would sneak in zero-beat on my filter at what seemed
>like S9+30, right into my unsuspecting ear.

Back to back diodes across the headphone will limit the output to your ears on dangerously loud signals.

I'm serious, for most stations a good set of headphones will do as much for your ability to copy weak signals as any improvement you can make. Try it.

Duffey - KK6MC/5

James R Duffey KK6MC/5 DM65
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [1223] VBF vs SCAF in the Sierra
Message-ID: <199610061728.KAA12543@primenet.com>

Howdy All,

Trolling for some info/opinions from everyone. Someone mentioned their preference for SCAF added to the Sierra vs using the variable width bandpass filter that is part of Sierra's basic design. Is this because the VBF is inconvenient to adjust? Does it ring too much at tight setting? Does anyone out there like and use the VBF?

Most importantly: Do I have to add the OHR SCAF to my List of Things I Must Have, along with the KC-2 and SST?

Perspiring minds want to know!

Thanks much for your time.

Cheers de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions

Hopefully less than a month away from having a Sierra in my grubby little hands....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: qrp-l@fido261.qis.net (qrp-l)
Subject: [1245] WBS HAM-CHAT
Message-ID: <dc0_9610062058@fido261.qis.net>

Stephen M Smith wrote in a message to All:

 SMS> From: sigcom@juno.com (Stephen M Smith)
 SMS> Subject: Re: WBS HAM-CHAT

>
>We could also lookon 3579 kHz concurrently if anyone is up for it.
 SMS> I'll be there, but let's talk about using IRC or something
 SMS> real-time. WBS is too slow for hams!

Some time ago I registered #QRP on irc.dal.net.
Feel free to use it....I never see anyone there...so it does need exercise

Thom LaCosta
K3HRN
thom@fido261.qis.net
Our Business is Business
--
|Fidonet: qrp-l 1:261/1352
|Internet: qrp-l@fido261.qis.net
|Standard disclaimer: Take a Naugha to Lunch today YOU pay the bill!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
Subject: [1209] Whiterook Products Company Page
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19961006124733.00c56188@fix.net>

Whiterook Products Company now has a Web Page.

Very nicely done too.

Check it out: http://www.west.net/~wpc/

72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

The NorCal Page   http://www.fix.net/norcal.html

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996

From: Cecil A Moore <Cecil_A_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Subject: [1205] Re: "Reflections"

>I've already had 5 responses to my post about Reflections by Maxwell
>and I think the store I found them in only had three copies!

Hi Bob, Worldradio Magazine is supposed to be publishing "Reflections"
so there should be plenty of copies available soon.

73, Cecil, W6RCA, OOTC (not speaking for my employer)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: newberry <newberry@cyberhighway.net>
Subject: [1253] Re: acoustic tuning
Message-ID: <3255D7D4.194E@cyberhighway.net>

Dale LeDoux wrote:
>
> Interesting stuff about acousticly tuned speakers. It reminds me of
> something I used to deal with years ago in my mis-spent youth: tuned
> exhaust systems for motorcyle engines. These things depended on acoustic
> characteristics to increase the efficiency of exhaust flow. The rule I heard
> reiterated time and again was that a short, wide pipe could have the same
> tuned RPM (frequency?) as a long narrow one, but that the short, wide system
> would have a broader power band (wider bandpass?). Then I ran across and
> article about building a tuned microphone which used various lengths of PVC
> pipe to allow selection of the response frequency.
>
> Can we indeed have a sharp acoustic bandpass filter by using a long, narrow
> tuned cylinder?
>
> Dale LeDoux
> Bath Electrical Systems
> Power Specialists -- 480 V to 230 KV
> KD5QI
This sounds like a hemholtz resonator.... Maybe the tuning equations
for a 4th order loudspeaker port would apply here. I'll have to look
into it.

Greg
WB7DUO

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: DCrespy@aol.com

Subject: [1214] Re: Gel-Cel's and grounding antenna switches
Message-ID: <961006104320_326534927@emout07.mail.aol.com>

Bill,
you wrote:

Over the years, I've collect several QRP rigs. They far outnumber
the local antennas. I have a good quality, B&W (?) 5 position grounding
antenna switch. I'm considering running the rig-side output from the
tuner to the input of the 1-to-5 switch and using it to connect to the
QRO rig as well as my QRP rigs. I'm a bit hesitant to do this as the thought
of that 100 watts so close to the input of the QRP rigs is scary.
It's probably not a problem but I'd rather spend my free time using the
QRP rigs than tracking down and replacing burnt out components.

I've set up an MFJ antenna switch to switch rigs, rather than antennas. One of the rigs is a 100 watt rig, the others are all homebrew QRP rigs. I did three things, and in the last year have had no problems with so much RF close to the "little" rigs.

1. The switch has a feature that grounds unused contacts..like yours..very important I think.

2. I left one open contact on the wafer between the big rig and the little ones.. This however is mostly because the MFJ switch had conventional spacing between positions. Some of the BW switches already have double spaced contacts.

3. NEVER have more than one rig turned on at a time !!!

Good luck and have fun

Harry KG5LO Saline MI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Dale LeDoux <dledoux@laci.net>
Subject: [1240] Re: Handbook Power Transformer Leads ID
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961006174300.36f71ba6@laci.net>

At 19:07 10/6/96 -0400, you wrote:
>In response to a request for more information on identifying surplus
>transformers, here are the page numbers from the 1996 ARRL Handbook with more
>information of transformers as well as tubes.
>

>Page 11.3 "How to evaluate unmarked transformers."
>
>Page 24.7, Table 24.12 Power transformer lead color codes
><<snip!>>
>Darrel, WD6BOR
>
Darrel--
Good info. by way of addition, though, here are a few more tips on scavenging transformers in the absence of color codes:

1. If at all possible, try and identify at least the incoming power 120or 240 volt leads and mark these.
2. Use your DVM to identify windings by determining continuity between other leads. Mark these as you identify them.
3. Ratio out the transformer. This is best done by putting a known AC voltage (yeah, everybody knows transformers are AC) into the 120 volt winding. The lower the voltge here, the better. If you have access to a variac, try ten volts in instead of 120. Measure the voltage on each of the other windings very carefully, especially if the transformer is a real unknown, as high voltages may be developed. Use simple math to determine the ratio of the transformer and you will be able to figure out what to expect from each winding at full input voltage. Note this for your record.
4. Be aware of the current ratings of your transformer. You might have to resort to measuring the wire gage of windings to get a ballpark figure.
5. Never short the leads on an unused winding of a transformer together, as this effectively shorts the other windings and will result in a burnt transformer, a lot of smoke and embarrassment.

Remember at all times that you are working with real electricity. Treat it with respect...

Dale LeDoux
Bath Electrical Systems
Power Specialists -- 480 V to 230 KV
KD5QI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Dale LeDoux <dledoux@laci.net>
Subject: [1246] Re: Handbook Power Transformer Leads ID
Message-ID: <32586565.3F63@laci.net>

Stephen M Smith wrote:
>
> (snipped)

> >
> >Remember at all times that you are working with real electricity.
> >Treat it
> >with respect...
> >
>
> That's right, Dale. Real men use *tubes* with *real* electricity. None
> of this namby, pamby solid state and fake 13.8V electricity stuff! More
> power, Arrr, Arrr, Arrr. :-) :-)
>
> 73.......Steve, WB6TNL

Steve--
Funny you should bring that up...Back when I was getting my first
license, I thought that a 3kv DC supply for a 4CX1000 amp (yeah...QRO.
I was an op at an Army MARS station) was high voltage. Now I work on
power systems up to 230KV (230,000 volts AC) and 3 KV doesn't seem
nearly as scarey. Lotsa fun, too. Great big electrons, like
golfballs...;)

Dale
KD5QI
Bath Electrical Systems
Power Specialists
480 V to 230 KV

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: TonyDrumm@ibm.net (Tony Drumm)
Subject: [1211] Re: Impedance and Tuner Efficiency Measurements (Long)
Message-ID: <199610061422.OAA82374@smtp-gw01.ny.us.ibm.net>

(I accidentally sent this to the original poster but it was meant for the
list. For this list, Eudora picks the poster for the reply address. For
another I subscribe to, it picks the list...)

>OK, here's my stab at measuring "tuner efficiency" using the method
>described recently by Bob Follett and others. ...

The one problem I see with the approaches being used to measure tuner
efficiency is the use of a single impedance (and non-reactive) load. Tuner
efficiency will likely vary a lot depending on the load and, therefore, the
amount of L and C used. The results of these measurements tell you the
efficiency when driving into 50 ohms which is not altogether interesting.
If the load is 50 ohms, you likely won't be using a tuner.

One method that might prove more useful would be to use two (identical)

tuners connected together back-to-back so the "radio" connection of one connects to the signal source, the "radio" connection of the other attaches to the dummy load, and the "antenna" connections are hooked together. Then, the dummy load connected tuner is used to present a reactive load to the first.

The two tuners would be set to approximate conjugates of one another, so I still don't know if the data from such an experiment would be completely useful. But I think it would at least allow exploring a wider range of the tuners' settings. BTW, I didn't make this up - I remember seeing a setup like this before. Wouldn't be surprised if I saw it here on QRP-l!

72.
Tony Drumm
ARS AA0SM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [1238] Re: Impedance and Tuner Efficiency Measurements (Long)
Message-ID: <961006191129_203645768@emout13.mail.aol.com>

Tony,

Using back to back components is an ideal way of testing systems for overall efficiency. It is quite amazing to witness the power loss when placing tuners back to back and measuring input vs. output power to a dummy load under a wide variety of complex matching conditions.

This is probably the simplest and best way to measure balun efficiency also. Instead of just winding one, make two, put them back to back and measure losses into a 50 ohm dummy load over a wide variety of frequencies. This is what Dr. Jerry Sevick, W2FMI recommends in his various balun publications.

72, Paul

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [1251] Re old TV parts
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.961006223941.22869D-100000@u1.abs.net>

Don't forget to relieve the vacuum in the picture tube of that defunct TV you're stripping for parts for your next QRP project. Explode, implode, it doesn't make a lot of difference which it was if you get a face full of glass :-) I've never seen one implode yet and don't want to, so I always

"kill" the vacuum when I strip one. I use a safer method than whacking it with a hammer, as was recently suggested. I use a method that I read in a radio/TV repair book as a kid: take an old blanket or throw rug and cover the tube completely just in case something goes wrong, to contain the flying glass. Next, go to the neck of the tube, which is the weak link. The main body is very thick, but the neck is not. At the very end of the neck is the little glass nipple that was pinched off after the air was drawn out. It is usually covered up by a piece of plastic, which contains the indexing tab for making sure the socket is put on with the correct orientation.

Take a pair of wire cutters or pliers and break off the plastic and snap off the nipple. You will hear air start rushing into the tube, and after it stops in a few seconds it will be as dangerous as an empty glass bottle.

Someone suggested looking at the transistors on the board that contains the picture tube socket. I happened to have one from a color set handy--this one has three 2SC2068's. (In accordance with standard Japanese marking practice, they only contain the figures C2068. The 2S is implied.) The specs--device dissipation 1.5 watts, frequency 95 MHz, hfe of 20--looks like a nice final amp for a QRP rig.

Finally, Jeff Herman mentioned the variable caps in the UHF tuners, something I wrote up in the QRP Quarterly in the days before I took over the Idea Exchange column there. Listen to him when he recommends these things--they come out of the UHF tuners, and are built like a tank! They even have a built-in vernier drive. The tuners made by Alps seem to have the best ones. Unfortunately, later model TVs have electronically tuned tuners, without air variable caps, so snap up those UHF tuners while you can! The only down side is that the plates are badly shaped for giving a linear tuning range at HF, but otherwise they are really neat little caps. You do have to leave them in the tuner chassis, since they are an integral part of it, so extreme miniaturization is not possible.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [1234] Re: Outbacker
Message-ID: <199610062210.SAA29147@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>experience at qrp levels with the Outbacker vertical in a "non-mobile"
>situation, i.e. at home or condo, and how they devised a satisfactory
>ground plan to sub. for the vehicle body.

>   Blair Thompson, VE7HHH.
>

Hello Blair,

I tried using the Outbacker clamped to a step ladder using 4 radials
on 15 meters a couple of years ago. It proved to be a BTN antenna.
(Better than nothing). I tried it again on other bands with 8 and 16 radials
, and it did improve the signals but let's face it. This is a
compromise antenna for QRP , It's ok at QRO though.

73 de AA1IK
Ernie

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: BOB KELLOGG <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
Subject: [1244] Re: Passed the Extra!
Message-ID: <199610070100.VAA18591@mh004.infi.net>

Hi Bob,
At 09:39 AM 10/5/96 -0600, you wrote:
>Gang:
>
>This morning it did it! Passed the Extra!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!! Now if you don't like your new callsign, you can
request your old one and get it back!!. -- Or, you can get a fancy new 1X
call or whatever. Most of all you can be satisfied that you have earned the
most difficult to achieve classification for Hams.

Personally, and not to take away from your achievement, Bob, I think you
long ago earned a much more important title. It's not awarded by passing
any tests, it's earned by giving of yourself, and it's awarded by your
fellow hams. The title is Elmer.

Again, congratulations, and -

CUL,
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Dan Hogan <dhhogan@lightside.com>
Subject: [1227] Re: QRP CALLSIGN/ADDRESS
Message-ID: <199610061836.LAA24242@covina.lightside.com>

Ken,

FTP:
On most public *anonymous* FTP sites atb the "user/Login" request enter the word anonymous, for the "password" use your internet address. Be aware taht some sites will not accept the subdirectory string. use only the primary server address, then CD to your area. The address has to be EXACT, if in doubt use lowercase.

I don't have the Email server address or protocal to retrieve Callsigns via Email.

Dan Hogan
    West Covina, CA
    dhhogan@lightside.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: AE0Q / V31RY <v31ry@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [1229] Re: QRP CALLSIGN/ADDRESS
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961006135043.3d37f360@popd.ix.netcom.com>

At 12:03 06-10-96 EDT, N4SO wrote:
>This is related to obtaining an address from a QRP station from
>specifically
>the QRZ! ham radio CDROM Callsign Database.
>
  snip
>
>One more thing-- QRZ! has an E-mail address for obtaining a
>callsign/address
>but I lost the datafiles.
>
>And thanks!.

  Here it is right off the QRZ web site (www.qrz.com):
==========

How to access the QRZ Callsign Database via Email:

To search and retrieve callsign data by e-mail, send a message to
lookup@qrz.com as shown below:

Subject:

lookup aa7bq
lookup w1aw

==========

  I don't think the ftp site has any callsign searching ability.. I just
use it to upload pictures of local hams that I've had scanned into files..
If you had web-access, you could see photos of hams when you search their call!

  Anyway, good luck with the e-mail version..

73 -- Glenn

Duct Tape is like the Force: It has a light side, and a dark side,
                              and it holds the Universe together.

    AE0Q / V31RY   ex: GM5BKC, ZB2WZ, SV0WY, WA0VPK
 v31ry@ix.netcom.com   -- ARRL LM, QCWA LM, NCVA --

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [1235] Re: QRP CALLSIGN/ADDRESS
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.961006152858.410D-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Sun, 6 Oct 1996, Dan Hogan wrote:

> Ken,
>
> FTP:
> On most public *anonymous* FTP sites atb the "user/Login" request enter the
> word anonymous, for the "password" use your internet address.

Many systems will allow those of use who are lazy and can never remember
how to spell "anonymous" to use "ftp" in its place!

Many systems will also allow you to just hit the return key when asked
for your password.

cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [1254] Re: Re old TV parts
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.844660104.634.myers@bigboy>

> Don't forget to relieve the vacuum in the picture tube of that defunct TV
> you're stripping for parts for your next QRP project.

Actually, I heard that the natural supply of vacuum has been running low,
which is why solid state is being emphasized over tubes. You should
send the tubes back to have the vacuum recycled.

;-)

Dana KK6JQ
Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [1233] Re: Say no to NetNews
Message-ID: <199610062200.PAA06568@dfw-ix3.ix.netcom.com>

At 07:22 AM 9/30/96 +1030, you wrote:
>A brief message to explain why it should NOT be a newsgroup:
>
>1) Newsgroups get spammed continually
>2) Many subscribers to QRP-L (Jim, WA6GER, for instance) do so through
>   Juno. They would be immediately cut off.

Also, you wouldn't believe the time and arguing it takes to create a new
newsgroup
in the rec.* hierarchy. We are *finally* getting to the point that we may
have a

rec.radio.amateur.boatanchors newsgroup. There was a major hassle over the "boatanchors" name, and I commend the proponent of the group for refusing to cave in on the name.

The call for votes ends tomorrow, so it shouldn't be too long before we know the result of the vote. Hopefully, it will be positive.

72 de Jim - KF6CR
QRP-L #248

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: N9DD@aol.com
Subject: [1225] Re: Scavenging old TVs
Message-ID: <961006141354_537751297@emout11.mail.aol.com>

I don't mean to throw cold water on an idea some guys think is great, but there are dozens of other types of discarded electronic items that are much better for scavaging parts from than old TVs.

With their CRTs, TVs are dangerous. They are bulky and take up alot of space. Just having one laying around in pieces is messy enough, but several can really junk up a room. XYLs usually hate this kind of stuff guys...

Much better are old VCRs and CB radios. They stack nicely. They usually have many more "good" parts than a TV anyway. Most of us collect parts to build QRP transmitters and receivers for HF. If you think about it, thats what a CB radio is. Its bound to be loaded with usable parts.

So Tom's advice on improving domestic relations is - Keep the junk TVs out of the house. Go for the "better junk" and you'll be much better off.

Tom N9DD
South Bend, IN

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Jeffrey Herman <jherman@hawaii.edu>
Subject: [1236] Re: Scavenging old TVs
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.93.961006122701.4434A-100000@uhunix3>

The challenge is to get good at striping the junk TVs *curbside*. I carry

a few tools with me on my bike, not only for unexpected bike repairs, but also to strip abandoned electronic items left by the street. After removing a half-dozen or so screws to remove the back cover, I remove any and all circuit boards and the all-so-important tuner, plus the deflection coil (with it's miles of wire) on the yoke of the picture tube. All these items go into my backback; the power supply gets straped to my book rack. All done in about 10 minutes. No fuss, no muss.

Happy scavaging,
Jeff KH2PZ / KH6
Wanted: Second-hand computer chess board

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: lbbarley@feist.com (Bruce Barley)
Subject: [1228] RE: Scavenging old TVs (was Re: NN1G Rep
Message-ID: <199610061851.NAA14422@wichita.fn.net>

> Would someone be >willing to describe in DETAIL for me how to ground a picture tube.
>
Brian ---

The biggest electrical danger is at the terminal which connects to the side of the "bell" part of the picture tube. It will be a fairly hefty wire (usually red, sometimes white), single unto itself, and will come from the vecinity of the flyback transformer and run to that connection on the side of the pix tube. The actual contact on the picture tube is a recessed cup, and a spring loaded tension clip holds the wire into the cup. There should be be a large plastic or rubber insulating flange shield around that connection.

Take a length of insulated wire, although 30,000 volts WILL puncture most common insulations, and connect one end of the wire to CHASSIS GROUND. Look for a wide copper strap or maybe a spring which connects to the chassis and also makes contact with the OUTSIDE surface of the "bell" part of the picture tube. Use this area as your CHASSIS GROUND if at all possible. Otherwise connect your ground directly to the CHASSIS FRAME.
Now. Take the other end of that wire, and make a connection (wrap with tape, or a small clamp will do) to the shaft of the longest, biggest flat blade screw driver you can find. You want the handle to be PLASTIC, or plain, dry wood - with no metallic trim rings or palm buttons, in good condition, not cracked, and not oily.

PUT ON SAFETY GOGGLES BEFORE YOU START.
KEEP ONE HAND IN YOUR POCKET AT ALL TIMES DURING THIS PROCESS... If you DO

get across this voltage, at least the discharge path will not be across the heart and lung area
of your chest. Preferably stand on a dry, thick piece of carpet or rubber mat, and have your shoes on.

Continue here.

Holding your hand well back from the shaft of the screwdriver, grasp the handle and wedge the blade under the insulating flange surrounding the HV terminal on the "bell" side of the picture tube, keeping the blade flat to the surface of the glass. You should hear a "snap" if there is any appreciable charge on the tube. The inner surface and the outer surface of the "bell" are constructed as a very efficient, LARGE capacitance, high voltage condenser. The outer surface is the ground plate. The inner surface is connected through the recessed cup, and is the plate of the capacitor which is charged to typically 30,000+ volts on a 25 inch screen. I don't know what voltage is used on those larger than 25 inch direct viewing picture tubes currently in use, but the amount of energy stored has got my attention! Be advised that the insulation on the wire you are using will be totally INEFFECTIVE at the 20,000 to 30,000 volt range. You might as well be using a bare piece of wire, here. So KEEP AWAY FROM IT when you approach the high voltage terminal with the screw driver.

Once you hear the snap, poke the screw driver in again two or three more times to be sure you have fully discharged the tube at this time. If you don't hear the snap, it means that either the tube was not charged to begin with, or that you were NOT successful in discharging it.

KEEP THAT HAND IN YOUR POCKET! DON'T TAKE OFF THE SAFETY GOGGLES, YET!

Once you are convinced that the picture tube is in fact discharged for now, grasp the high voltage wire up by the picture tube terminal and gently work it about. There are two types of snap connections used. One is like a bifurcated spring with fingers poking out at 180 opposed to each other. This one is the hardest to disconnect. You have to find the axis of the two fingers, and push against one while rocking the connector to walk it out of the cup, which has lips. The other type of connector has as many as four wide, curved "blades" which just snap into the cup. It will pop out without an unreasonable amount of force having to be used. Just rock it around, and you will feel it yield. IF AND ONLY IF you are certain that the picture is in fact discharged, you may also chose to merely cut the wire. I suggest a well insulated pair of side cutters.

Be advised that once the tube is discharged, high voltage electrons migrate out of the glass, and insulation over a period of time, and can result in that big glass capacitor regaining almost as much charge as it had when you started all this. Normally, this will take an appreciable length of time to happen, but in any case -- please understand the dynamics of what you are

undertaking! Your results may vary. Make certain that children have no access to either the area where they may come into contact with that picture tube, either before or after discharging.

One other thing to consider, is that the other end of that high voltage wire coming from the "bell" of the picture tube has the SAME potential on it as is at the picture tube end. 'Nuf Sed.

The power stored in this capacitor (I'm talking about 25 inch screens and smaller) is USUALLY not fatal to a healthy adult. Should you get between this voltage, and even a poor ground, it WILL knock you from your feet, at least. However. If you have a bad heart, etc. this may not be something you really want to do, yourself.

And last... maybe it should be first, though. A picture tube is a VERY DANGEROUS item when approached from the rear. Worse even than a skittish horse. The neck of the picture tube is EXTREMELY FRAGILE. With the high vacuum inside the tube, the number of total square inches of glass area (front AND rear) which is under ~15 lbs/ sq inch of atmospheric pressure, you can trigger one tremendous IMPLOSION should you break the glass. I always turn the television on it's face using a piece of cardboard on the floor (doesn't scratch the face of the tube that way) and wrap a heavy blanket or old quilt about the neck and "bell" portion of the tube. That way, if for some reason it does shatter and implode (opposite of EXplode), I will have some protection against flying glass.

Once the high voltage is discharged, remember that the picture tube is still just like a piece of high explosive ordinance with the pin removed. Be VERY cautious when about the neck and the back side of the "bell" of ANY picture tube. This also includes CRT tubes in oscilloscopes. Those also are very fragile. Safety goggles are required, not merely suggested whenever you are facing the rear of any picture tube.

I claim no responsibility for the outcome resulting from any one's actions from having read the above, and choosing to use this information in any way, whatsoever. I've presented the knowlege which I have picked up over the years, but you are ON YOUR OWN should you try to use it in any manner. Good luck.

Bruce Barley KB0PZD ex: WD0HRQ
lbbarley@feist.com qrp-l #69

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: Gary Surrency <gsurrenc@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [1226] Re: Tantalum vs. Electrolytics

Message-ID: <3257F628.5897@ix.netcom.com>

W. Daniel, 9V1ZV wrote:
>
> Hi Gang,
>
>   I don't know if my observation is correct but it seems to me that
> tantalums are very likely to fail with age. Can anyone educate me as to why
> this happens? What is the real advantage of using a tantalum vs. an
> electrolytic, for example? Thanks.
>
> 73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

Daniel,

It's been my experience that tantalums are not very forgiving to
accidental applications of reverse polarity, or excessive voltages.
They seem to be much less forgiving than electrolytics. They will
open circuit or get leaky.

Tantalums have much lower series inductance, making them better
for applications where ripple is a problem. Example, a 1uf tantalum
is equivalent to a 10-30uf electrolytic when used to bypass the
input pin or adjustment pin of 3 terminal voltage regulators.

I hear they are also poisonous if crushed or broken. Beware. :-(

72/73,
--
Gary, AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Oct 6 23:13:48 1996
From: sigcom@juno.com (Stephen M Smith)
Subject: [1230] Re: WBS HAM-CHAT
Message-ID: <19961006.094902.8295.2.sigcom@juno.com>

On Sun, 6 Oct 1996 10:45:35 -0500 (CDT) "Brian Carling"
<bry@mail1.mnsinc.com> writes:
>Anyone want to get on the WBS HAM CHAT area tonight for a live
>call-in, say at around 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time ? ? ?
>
>We could also lookon 3579 kHz concurrently if anyone is up for it.
>
(snipped)

I'll be there, but let's talk about using IRC or something real-time.
WBS is too slow for hams!

73.......Steve, WB6TNL
"The Super Scrounger"